

Maria Alvarez
903 west school street
santa rosa CA 94931

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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

Please do not allow the deregulation of the telephone companies. This will reduce competition and cause large price increases. We do not have enough options/competition for service in our rural area as it is. This will make the problem worse. We will have to abandon some of our services. It could also cause more lives to be lost (as people opt out of landline services) during future and eminent catastrophic fires and floods.

Thank you for protecting a diversity of providers and users!

Maria Alvarez